(ii) Interest rates of PFC and REC should be brought down to reflect market conditions.

(iii) An Expert Group would be set up to recommend one time settlement of all power sector past dues to CPSUs and dues from CPSUs to State Power Utilities. This would be linked to implementation of reforms with time bound milestones. The Group will give its report within three weeks of its constitution.

G. SUPPLY FROM CENTRAL GENERATING STATIONS

Continued supply of power from Central Generating Stations would have to be linked to demonstration of capacity to make payments for current purchases and sccuritisation of past dues.

H. HIGH LEVEL EMPOWERED GROUP

A High Level Empowered Group comprising of Minister of Power and Chief Ministers of some States may be set up to coordinate, monitor and review the implementation of Reforms.

Request by Delhi Government to NTPC to erect its own Power Station

2594. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Government has requested the NTPC to erect its own power stations in place of unserviceable Indraprastha Power Station;

(b) whether NTPC has prepared any feasibility report thereon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when NTPC will be able to erect its own power house at the site?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, NTPC has received a consultancy assignment from Delhi Vidyut Board to carry out a comprehensive study of IP station for

formulating a long term action plan for establishing an environment friendly plant of 1000 MW or more. The study report is being finalised.

Cost of power generation

†2595. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of average cost of power generation in the country vis-a-vis US, Japan, England, Germany, France, Australia, Canada, China etc.;

(b) if so, the average cost of power generation in each of the said countries vis-a-vis India; and

(c) what are the reasons for the difference in the cost of power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) As per available information, the average cost of generation of various States for thermal power projects and hydcl projects for the year 2000-2001 is given in the Statement-I (See below). The details of generation cost of electricity in various countries including India arc given in Statement-II (See below).

(c) The cost of generation from various power projects in various countries is dependent on a variety of factors like type of project *viz.* Hydro, thermal or nuclear; fuel used *viz.* Coal, liquid fuel, natural gas etc. and distance of the project from the fuel source; technology used, mode of financing, difference in the tax regime etc.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.